

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

AFFORDABLE PHONE SERVICES, INC.
TARIFF REVISIONS

BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COVER SHEET

DOCKET

NUMBER: 2004-146 - C

(Please type or print)

Submitted by: Charlotte Lacey

SC Bar Number: _____

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NOTE: The cover sheet and information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law. This form is required for use by the Public Service Commission of South Carolina for the purpose of docketing and must be filled out completely.

DOCKETING INFORMATION (Check all that apply)

☐ Emergency Relief demanded in petition
expeditiously

☐ Request for item to be placed on Commission's Agenda

☐ Other: _____

INDUSTRY (Check one)	NATURE OF ACTION (Check all that apply)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Electric	<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavit	<input type="checkbox"/> Letter	<input type="checkbox"/> Request	
<input type="checkbox"/> Electric/Gas	<input type="checkbox"/> Agreement	<input type="checkbox"/> Memorandum	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Certification	
<input type="checkbox"/> Electric/Telecommunications	<input type="checkbox"/> Answer	<input type="checkbox"/> Motion	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Investigation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Electric/Water	<input type="checkbox"/> Appellate Review	<input type="checkbox"/> Objection	<input type="checkbox"/> Resale Agreement	
<input type="checkbox"/> Electric/Water/Telecom.	<input type="checkbox"/> Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Resale Amendment	
<input type="checkbox"/> Electric/Water/Sewer	<input type="checkbox"/> Brief	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition for Reconsideration	<input type="checkbox"/> Reservation Letter	
<input type="checkbox"/> Gas	<input type="checkbox"/> Certificate	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition for Rulemaking	<input type="checkbox"/> Response	
<input type="checkbox"/> Railroad	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition for Rule to Show Cause	<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Discovery	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sewer	<input type="checkbox"/> Complaint	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Intervene	<input type="checkbox"/> Return to Petition	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Telecommunications	<input type="checkbox"/> Consent Order	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Intervene Out of Time	<input type="checkbox"/> Stipulation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Discovery	<input type="checkbox"/> Prefiled Testimony	<input type="checkbox"/> Subpoena	
<input type="checkbox"/> Water	<input type="checkbox"/> Exhibit	<input type="checkbox"/> Promotion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tariff	
<input type="checkbox"/> Water/Sewer	<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Consideration	<input type="checkbox"/> Proposed Order	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative Matter	<input type="checkbox"/> Interconnection Agreement	<input type="checkbox"/> Protest		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Interconnection Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Publisher's Affidavit		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Late-Filed Exhibit	<input type="checkbox"/> Report		

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August 21, 2009

VIA OVERNIGHT DELIVERY

Mr. Charles Terreni
Chief Clerk of the Commission
South Carolina Public Service Commission
101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100
Columbia, South Carolina 29210
(803) 896-5100

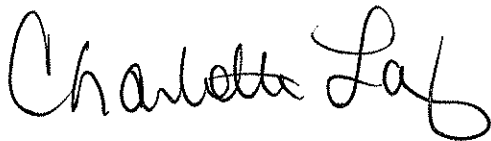
Re: Affordable Phone Services, Inc.
Docket No. 2004-146-C

Dear Mr. Terreni:

Enclosed please find for filing an original copy of the Affordable Phone Services, Inc.'s revised tariff pages 2, 3 and original tariff pages 15-18 to include Lifeline and Linkup Programs.

If you have any questions or if I may provide you with any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charlotte Lacey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Charlotte" and the last name "Lacey" clearly distinguishable.

Charlotte Lacey
Legal Assistant to Lance J.M. Steinhart

Attorney for Affordable Phone Services, Inc.

Enclosures

cc: Joseph Fernandez (w/enc)

Affordable Phone Services, Inc.
Issue Date: June 25, 2008
Effective Date: December 19, 2008

Tariff
1st Revised Page No. 2
Cancels Original Page No. 2

TARIFF CHECK SHEET

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15	Original
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17	Original
18	Original

Affordable Phone Services, Inc.
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Affordable Phone Services, Inc.
Issue Date: June 25, 2008
Effective Date: December 19, 2008

Illustrative Tariff
1st Revised Page No. 3
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Rule 22 Lifeline Program

A. General

- (i) The Lifeline program is designed to increase the availability of telecommunications services to low income subscribers by providing a credit to monthly recurring local service for qualifying residential subscribers. Basic terms and conditions are in compliance with the FCC's Order on Universal Service in CC Docket No. 97-157, which adopts the Federal-State Joint Board's recommendation in CC Docket No. 96-45, which complies with the Telecommunications Act of 1996. Specific terms and conditions are as prescribed by the South Carolina Public Service Commission and are as set forth in this tariff.
- (ii) Lifeline is supported by the federal universal service support mechanism.
- (iii) Federal baseline support of eight dollars and twenty-five cents (\$8.25) is available for each Lifeline service and is passed through to the subscriber. An additional three dollars and fifty cents (\$3.50) credit is provided by the Company. Supplemental federal support of one dollar and seventy-five cents (\$1.75), matching one half of the Company contribution, will also be passed along to the Lifeline subscriber. The total Lifeline credit available to an eligible customer in South Carolina is thirteen dollars and fifty cents (\$13.50). The amount of credit will not exceed the charge for local service, which includes the access line, the Subscriber Line Charge and local usage.

B. Regulations

(i) General

- (a) Customers eligible under the Lifeline program are also eligible for connection assistance under the Link-Up program.
- (b) One low income credit is available per household and is applicable to the primary residential connection only. The named subscriber must be a current recipient of any of the low income assistance programs identified in Section B(ii)(a) following.
- (c) A Lifeline customer may subscribe to any local service offering available to other residential customers. Since the Lifeline credit is applicable to the primary residential connection only, it may not be applied to multiple lines in a package for local service.
- (d) Toll blocking, if elected, will be provided at no charge to the Lifeline subscriber.
- (e) No deposit will be required of a Lifeline customer who subscribes to toll blocking. If a Lifeline customer removes toll blocking prior to establishing an acceptable credit history, a deposit may be required. When applicable, advance payments will not exceed the connection and local service charges for one month.
- (f) Neither the Federal Universal Service Charge nor the South Carolina Intrastate Universal Service Surcharge will be billed to Lifeline customers.

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Rule 22 Lifeline Program (Cont'd.)

B. Regulations (Cont'd.)

(i) General (Cont'd.)

(g) A Lifeline subscriber's local service will not be disconnected for non-payment of regulated toll charges. Local service may be denied for non-payment of local calls in accordance with Section 2. Access to toll service may be denied for non-payment of regulated tolls. A Lifeline subscriber's request for reconnection of local service will not be denied if the service was previously denied for non-payment of toll charges.

(h) At no time shall a customer's Lifeline rate go below zero.

(ii) Eligibility

(a) To be eligible for a Lifeline credit, a customer must be a current recipient of any one of the following low income assistance programs.

1. Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TAW), previously known as AFDC.
2. Food Stamps
3. Medicaid

(b) All applications for service are subject to verification with the state agency responsible for administration of the qualifying program.

(iii) Certification

(a) Proof of eligibility in any of the qualifying low income assistance programs should be provided to the Company within 30 days of application for service. The Lifeline credit will not be established until proof of eligibility has been received by the Company. When eligibility documentation is provided, the Lifeline credit will be provided on a going forward basis.

(b) The Company reserves the right to periodically audit its records, working in conjunction with the appropriate state agencies, for the purpose of determining continuing eligibility. Information obtained during such audit will be treated as confidential information to the extent required under State and Federal laws. The use or disclosure of information concerning enrollees will be limited to purposes directly connected with the administration of the Lifeline plan.

(c) When a customer is determined to be ineligible as a result of an audit, the Company will contact the customer. If the customer cannot provide eligibility documentation within 60 calendar days, the Lifeline credit will be discontinued.

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Rule 22 Lifeline Program (Cont'd.)

B. Regulations (Cont'd.)

(iv) General

- (a) Lifeline is provided as a monthly credit on the eligible residential subscriber's access line bill for local service.
- (b) Service Charges in Section 4 are applicable for installing or changing Lifeline service.
- (c) Link-Up connection assistance in Section 4 may be available for installing or relocating Lifeline service.
- (d) The Service Change Charge in Section 4 is not applicable when existing service is converted intact to Lifeline.
- (v) The total Lifeline credit consists of one federal credit plus one (1) Company credit

(a) Federal credit

Monthly Credit

- 1. Temporary Assistance to Needy Families \$10.00
- 2. Food Stamps \$10.00
- 3. Medicaid \$10.00

(b) Company credit

- 1. All programs, one per Lifeline service \$ 3.50

Rule 23 Link-Up South Carolina

A. General

- (i) Link-Up is a program designed to increase the availability of telecommunications services to low income subscribers by providing a credit to the non-recurring installation and service charges to qualifying residential subscribers. Basic terms and conditions are in compliance with the FCC's Order on Universal Service in CC Docket 97-157, which adopts the Federal-State Joint Board's recommendation in CC Docket 96-45, which complies with the Telecommunications Act of 1996. Specific terms and conditions are as prescribed by the South Carolina Public Service Commission and are as set forth in this tariff.
- (ii) Link-Up is supported by the federal universal service support mechanism.
- (iii) A federal credit amount of fifty percent (50%) of the non-recurring charges for connection of service, up to a maximum of thirty dollars (\$30.00), is available to be passed through to the subscriber.

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Rule 23 Link-Up South Carolina (Cont'd.)

B. Regulations

(i) General

- (a) Customers eligible under Link-Up are also eligible for monthly recurring assistance under the Lifeline program.
- (b) Link-Up connection assistance is available per household and is applicable to the primary residential connection only.
- (c) The Link-Up credit is available each time the customer installs or relocates the primary residential service.
- (d) To receive the credit, proof of eligibility must be provided within 30 days after installation of service.
- (e) The total tariffed charges for connecting service, including service and other installation charges, are considered in the credit calculation.

(ii) Eligibility

- (a) To be eligible for a Link-Up credit, the named subscriber must be a current recipient of any of the following low income assistance programs:
 - 1. Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), previously known as AFDC
 - 2. Food Stamps
 - 3. Medicaid
- (b) All applications for service are subject to verification with the state agency responsible for administration of the qualifying program.

(iii) Certification

- (a) Proof of eligibility in any of the qualifying low income assistance programs should be provided to the Company within 30 days of application for service. The Link-Up credit will not be established until proof of eligibility has been received by the Company.
- (b) The use or disclosure of information concerning enrollees will be limited to purposes directly connected with the administration of the Link-Up plan.

C. Rates and Charges

The federal credit available for a Link-Up connection is thirty dollars (\$30.00) maximum or fifty percent (50%) of the installation and service charges from this Tariff, whichever is less.

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